

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A system comprising:

2 a home server including a service component, the service component to detect
3 when a server application listens for a connection;

4 a forwarding agent connected to the home server, the forwarding agent to provide
5 an Internet agent with access parameters received from the home server;

6 a remote client coupled through the Internet and to the system by the Internet agent;
7 and

8 wherein, if the remote client provides proper access parameters to the Internet
9 agent, the Internet agent provides the remote client access to a service running on the home
10 server.

1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein, the access parameters include a username
2 and a password.

1 3. The system of claim 1, wherein, the service component informs the
2 forwarding agent that the server application is listening for a connection and forwards the
3 access parameters to the forwarding agent.

1 4. The system of claim 1, further comprising, a gateway running a Network
2 Address Translation (NAT) software program, the gateway connecting the forwarding
3 agent to the Internet agent via the Internet.

1 5. The system of claim 4, wherein the forwarding agent establishes an
2 outgoing connection with the Internet agent through the NAT, to provide a channel for
3 incoming connection requests.

1 6. The system of claim 5, wherein the Internet agent and the forwarding agent
2 become layer 4 routers.

1 7. The system of claim 1, wherein the service component allows access to the
2 server application by a remote client by:

- 3 a) inquiring whether a user would like the server application to be
4 accessible from a remote client; and
5 b) setting required access parameters.

1 8. A system comprising:

2 a home server including a service component, the service component to detect
3 when a server application listens for a connection;

4 a remote client coupled through the Internet and to the system by an Internet agent,
5 the Internet agent listening on behalf of the home server for connection requests from a
6 remote client;

7 a forwarding agent connected to the home server, wherein the service component
8 informs the forwarding agent that the server application is listening for a connection and
9 forwards the access parameters to the forwarding agent, the forwarding agent to provide
10 the Internet agent with access parameters received from the home server; and

11 a gateway running a Network Address Translation (NAT) software program, the
12 gateway connecting the forwarding agent to the Internet agent via the Internet;

13 wherein, if the remote client provides proper access parameters to the Internet
14 agent, the Internet agent provides the remote client access to a service running on the home
15 server.

1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the forwarding agent establishes an
2 outgoing connection with the Internet agent through the NAT, to provide a channel for
3 incoming connection requests.

1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the Internet agent and the forwarding agent
2 become layer 4 routers.

1 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the service component allows access to the
2 server application by a remote client by:

3 a) inquiring whether a user would like the server application to be
4 accessible from a remote client; and
5 b) setting required access parameters.

1 12. A method comprising:

2 detecting when a server application listens for a connection from a remote client
3 on a home server, the remote client coupled through the Internet to the home server by an
4 Internet agent; and

5 providing the Internet agent with access parameters from the home server;

6 wherein, if the remote client provides proper access parameters to the Internet
7 agent, the Internet agent provides the remote client access to a service running on the home
8 server.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein, the access parameters include a username
2 and a password.

1 14. The method of claim 12, wherein, the home server executes a server
2 application.

1 15. The method of claim 12, wherein, a gateway runs a Network Address
2 Translation (NAT) software program and connects the Internet agent to the home server.

1 16. The method of claim 15, further comprising establishing an outgoing
2 connection with the Internet agent through the NAT, to provide a channel for incoming
3 connection requests.

1 17. The method of claim 12, further comprising:
2 a) inquiring whether a user would like a server application to be
3 accessible from a remote client; and
4 b) setting required access parameters.

1 18. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which
2 when executed by a machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising:
3 detecting when a server application listens for a connection from a remote client
4 on a home server, the remote client coupled through the Internet to the home server by an
5 Internet agent; and

6 providing the Internet agent with access parameters from the home server;
7 wherein, if the remote client provides proper access parameters to the Internet
8 agent, the Internet agent provides the remote client access to a service running on the home
9 server.

1 19. The machine-readable medium of claim 18, wherein, the access parameters
2 include a username and a password.

1 20. The machine-readable medium of claim 18, wherein, a gateway runs a
2 Network Address Translation (NAT) software program and connects to the Internet agent.

1 21. The machine-readable medium of claim 20, further comprising establishing
2 an outgoing connection with the Internet agent through the NAT, to provide a channel for
3 incoming connection requests.

1 22. The machine-readable medium of claim 18, further comprising:
2 a) inquiring whether a user would like a server application to be
3 accessible from a remote client; and
4 b) setting required access parameters.

1 23. An apparatus comprising:
2 a home server having a processor to perform operations including,
3 detecting when a server application listens for a connection from a remote client
4 on a home server, the remote client coupled through the Internet to the home server by an
5 Internet agent; and
6 providing the Internet agent with access parameters;
7 wherein, if the remote client provides proper access parameters to the Internet
8 agent, the Internet agent provides the remote client access to a service running on the home
9 server and the home server responds to requests from the remote client.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein, the access parameters include a
2 username and a password.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein, a gateway runs a Network Address
2 Translation (NAT) software program and connects the home server to the Internet agent.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising establishing an outgoing
2 connection with the Internet agent through the NAT, to provide a channel for incoming
3 connection requests.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising:

- 2 a) inquiring whether a user would like a server application to be
3 accessible from a remote client; and
4 b) setting required access parameters.